

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 00658 151842Z

50

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 EURE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04

CG-00 H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /141 W
----- 107362

P 151817Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7112

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 00658

PLEASE PASS DEPT OF LABOR (MR. SEGALL) AND DEPT.
OF AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UK, ETRD, ELAB

SUBJECT: LONDON DOCKERS BOYCOTT GRAPES

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: RICHARD CHAVEZ, OF THE UNITED FARM-
WORKERS UNION (AFL-CIO) VISITED LONDON ON FRIDAY AND
SATURDAY (JANUARY 11-12) IN ORDER TO SECURE SUPPORT FOR
UFW'S BOYCOTT OF CALIFORNIA GRAPES BEING IMPORTED INTO
THE UK. HE MET WITH LEADER JACK JONES AND OTHER OFFI-
CIALS OF THE TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS UNION (TGWU)
WHO REPORTEDLY PROMISED SUPPORT FOR THE UFW ACTION
BUT WERE VERY CAREFUL, PERHAPS IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE
LEGAL SANCTIONS UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ACT
CURRENTLY IN FORCE, NOT TO SPELL OUT SPECIFIC FORMS
OF ASSISTANCE. END SUMMARY

2. HOWEVER, LONDON DOCKERS HAVE ALREADY TAKEN WHAT
AMOUNTS TO "UN-DIRECTED" ACTION WHICH HAS ALREADY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 00658 151842Z

INVOLVED THE "BLACKING" OF TWO SHIPS CARRYING CALIFOR-

NIA GRAPES WHICH HAD TO BE DIVERTED TO PORTS IN EUROPE. ACCORDING TO A REPORT FROM ONE LONDON IMPORTER, SAPHIR SONS AND COMPANY, THE SO-CALLED NO. 1 DOCKS GROUP COMMITTEE OF THE TGWU DECIDED ON JANUARY 3, 1974 TO REFUSE TO UNLOAD CONSIGNMENTS OF GRAPES FROM THE SHIP "WILD CURLEW" AND THE CONSIGNMENT WAS DIVERTED TO HAMBURG. ANOTHER SHIP, "THE WILD CORMORANT," CARRYING A CONSIGNMENT OF GRAPES FROM LOS ANGELES TO LONDON, WAS ALSO DIVERTED TO ROTTERDAM. IN ADDITION TO ACTION OF THE LONDON DOCKERS, PORTERS AT COVENT GARDEN MARKETS HAVE ALSO DECIDED NOT TO HANDLE CALIFORNIA GRAPES.

3. AN ARTICLE IN THE FINANCIAL TIMES (JANUARY 12) REPORTS THAT CHAVEZ IS ALSO ENLISTING SUPPORT FOR A CONSUMER BOYCOTT AGAINST SAFEWAY STORES IN THE UK. THE FT ARTICLE STATES: "SAFEWAY HAS BEEN SELECTED BECAUSE, SAID CHAVEZ, ITS US PARENT WAS A BIG PURCHASER OF NON-UNION PRODUCE, AND HAD ACTIVELY INTERVENED IN THE DISPUTE BETWEEN FARM WORKERS AND GROWERS."

4. FRED SILVERMAN, THE TGWU OFFICIAL CONCERNED WITH THE BOYCOTT ISSUE, WHEN ASKED WHETHER THE DOCKERS AND PORTERS ACTION CONTRAVENED THE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ACT REPLIED THAT "THIS WAS THE \$64 QUESTION." HE IMPLIED THAT THE TGWU WAS BEING CAREFUL IN AVOIDING THE APPEARANCE OF DIRECT ORDERS TO ITS MEMBERS NOT TO UNLOAD THE GRAPES. HOWEVER, HE ADDED THAT THE TGWU WAS SUGGESTING TO IMPORTERS TO "TRY TO DO WITHOUT GRAPES AND TO GET THEIR GRAPES FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE" IN VIEW OF THE EXISTING DANGER TO THEIR SUPPLIES. FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE REPORTED AS AVAILABLE.

SOHM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMBARGOES, GRAPES, LABOR UNIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON00658
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740141/aaaabmou.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Jul-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <23 MAY 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LONDON DOCKERS BOYCOTT GRAPES
TAGS: ETRD, ELAB, UK
To: STATE STOCKHOLM
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005